

**REMARKS:**

In the Final Office Action dated December 20, 2006, the Examiner has rejected claims 1-14 under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Banatre (USPG 2002/0028683). Respectfully, the Applicant disagrees with the rejection.

Further, the Applicant notes that in the Advisory Action the Examiner initialed and checked box 3 indicating that the “proposed amendments” will not be entered. However, the Examiner has apparently overlooked that these amendments were accepted and filed 10/23/2006. The complete mark-up of these amendments were provided in the Final Office Action at the Examiner’s request. Thus, these amendments are seen as entered on October 23, 2006. In addition, as the Applicant has provided a complete mark-up of the amendments in the prior response to the Final Office Action, a clean version of the claims are presented herein.

As cited by the Examiner Banatre discloses:

“the context-sensitive service after a communication established between the mobile station and the access interface to announce to the service the presence of the user within the perimeter considered, the service being capable of establishing interaction with the user portable set adapting the content of the said service to the context of the user, thanks to the user identifier and perimeter identifier pair,” (emphasis added), (par. [0029]).

The Applicant contends that the description in Banatre lacks disclosure of “authenticating a user of an electronic device,” as in claim 1. In Banatre, “a user identifier is attributed for each user portable set in order to identify the said user,” (par. [0026]). Thus, the Applicant contends Banatre merely appears to be “establishing interaction with the user portable set,” to obtain a user identifier attribute. Banatre does not expressly disclose or suggest “authenticating a user,” as in claim 1.

Furthermore, after careful review the Applicant contends that Banatre does not disclose “maintaining a centralized register of the usage contexts available for the electronic device and pre-stored user profiles,” or “selecting from the centralized register a user profile in response to said identifying, and performing authentication in the selected usage context by using data from

the selected user profile,” as in claim 1. As cited by the Examiner, Banatre merely discloses “the service being capable of establishing interaction with the user portable set adapting the content of the said service to the context of the user, thanks to the user identifier and perimeter identifier pair,” (par. [0029]). Clearly, the disclosure of Banatre is not seen as anticipating claim 1.

Claim 1 recites:

A method for authenticating a user of an electronic device in a plurality of usage contexts the user is able to use with the electronic device, the method comprising: maintaining a centralized register of the usage contexts available for the electronic device and pre-stored user profiles, each user profile being associated with at least one usage context, the electronic device entering a particular one of said plurality of usage contexts, said particular one being a selected usage context, the electronic device identifying said entering, selecting from the centralized register a user profile in response to said identifying, and performing authentication in the selected usage context by using data from the selected user profile.

In claim 1 the features (*maintaining, selecting*) are included, and they provide a solution in which a device is able to automatically select an appropriate user profile for accessing a user to a context or authenticating the user in said context. Therefore, in the present invention the user does not have to manually select a user key, a user certificate, or the like.

In addition, Banatre does not disclose or suggest that a correct user profile (e.g. an authentication or digital signing key, or an access certificate) is obtained after selecting a context-sensitive service. In the solution recited in the independent claims of the present application said user profile can be selected from the centralized register that contains pre-stored user profiles, each of them being associated with at least one usage context. Therefore, Banatre does not solve a technical problem that is solved by the present invention, and as is recited in the independent claims.

Moreover, the Examiner is respectfully reminded that for a rejection to be made on the basis of anticipation, it is well recognized that “to constitute an anticipation, all material elements

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recited in a claim must be found in one unit of prior art”, Ex Parte Gould, BPAI, 6 USPQ 2d, 1680, 1682 (1987), citing with approval. In re Marshall, 578 F.2d 301, 304, 198 USPQ 344, 346 (CCPA 1978).

The Applicant contends that for at least the reasons stated Banatre does not disclose or suggest claim 1, and claim 1 should be allowed.

In addition, for at least the reason that the independent claims 7, 13 and 14 recite language similar to that of claim 1 as noted above, Banatre does not anticipate these claims, and all the independent claims 1, 7, 13 and 14 should be allowed.

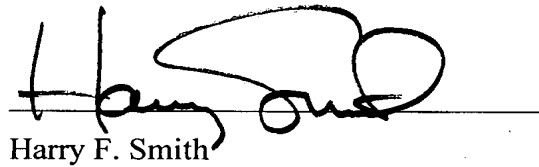
Furthermore, as the claims 2-6 and 8-12 depend from claims 1 and 7 respectively, Banatre does not anticipate these claims, and all the claims 1-14 should be allowed.

Based on the above explanations and arguments, it is clear that Banatre does not anticipate claims 1-14. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and remove the rejections of claims 1-14 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) and to allow all of the pending claims 1-14 as presented for examination.

For all of the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now present in the application are clearly novel and patentable over the prior art of record. Should any unresolved issue remain, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

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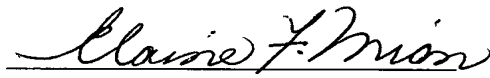
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